



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6538

March 29, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

All votes have been counted, and Congresswoman Mariannette Miller-Meeks won her election. Not only did Dr. Miller-Meeks not trail in any officially reported count, but she also continued to lead following a recount conducted by bipartisan recount boards, which included a member from each campaign and an agreed upon third party. On November 30, 2020, the bipartisan State Canvassing Board voted unanimously to certify Congresswoman Miller-Meeks as the winner. Then, on January 3, 2021, you seated Congresswoman Miller-Meeks as a Member of Congress with support from every Democratic Member.¹

Yet Rita Hart² has contested the results of Iowa's free and fair election with the Committee on House Administration, which is made up of twice as many Democrats as Republicans. In fact, Contestant Hart purposefully skipped Iowa's impartial courts and moved directly to this Democrat-controlled committee, stating it was "the only way to get the result we need."

While the Constitution gives Congress the authority to determine its own members, it is unprecedented and antithetical to our democracy to unseat the duly elected and certified winner of a state election simply because you have the majority.

You have already begun to manipulate this contest in order to guarantee a win for Contestant Hart, inventing brand-new procedures³ that violates federal law and your own rules. Unbelievably, this would require almost nothing from Contestant Hart but would have Congresswoman Miller-Meeks *prove* that she won her seat, despite holding a valid election certificate. Even worse, as Ranking Member Rodney Davis noted,⁴ Marc Elias, an attorney recently sanctioned by a federal appellate court for untruthfulness,⁵

¹ H.R. Res. 1, 117th Cong., 167 Cong. Rec. 7 (2021).

² Evie Fordham, *Pelosi: 'Of course' there's a scenario where GOP win in tight Iowa race overturned*, Fox News, March 11, 2021, <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/pelosi-gop-iowa-race-overturned-2nd-congressional-district>.

³ Letter from Zoe Lofgren, Chairperson, Comm. On H. Admin., to Counsel for Rita Hart and Mariannette Miller-Meeks (March 10, 2021) (on file at <https://republicans-cha.house.gov/sites/republicans.cha.house.gov/files/documents/2021.3.10%20CHA%20Letter%20to%20the%20Parties.pdf>).

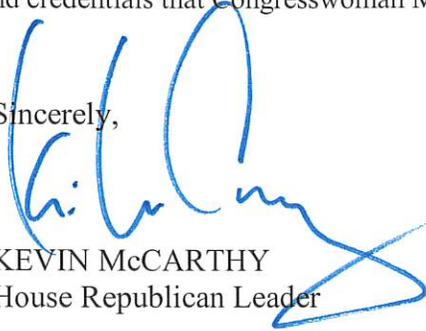
⁴ Marisa Schultz, *Republicans accuse Dem election lawyer of 'serious conflict of interest' in case to reverse Iowa House race*, Fox News, March 19, 2021, <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/republicans-dem-election-lawyer-iowa-house-race>.

⁵ Order at 3, *Texas Alliance for Retired Americans v. Ruth Hughs*, 976 F.3d 564 (5th Cir. March 11, 2021) (No. 20-40643).

represents half of the Democrats on the Committee—the judges—while *also* representing Contestant Hart, a serious conflict of interest.

I urge you to put your faith in our democracy and dismiss this partisan contest. While you may have the ability through force of majority vote to disenfranchise Iowa voters and replace their selection with your own, Iowa's voters, the American people, and every duly-elected Representative serving in this 117th Congress with the same certifications and credentials that Congresswoman Miller-Meeks, you, and I have, deserve better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin McCarthy", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

KEVIN McCARTHY
House Republican Leader